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NOTICE CALLING FOR BIDS ON FRANCHISE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance invites sealed proposals for the purchase of a forty year franchise to maintain, operate, repair, alter, change and remove a pipe line system for the purpose of transporting crude mineral oil and its products, water, gas, or steam, under, upon and along the various streets and alleys in the City of Torrance in accordance with that certain application of Superior Oil Company, dated August 25th, 1924, and on file in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Torrance, not including any streets in that portion of the City lying within the following boundary streets:

Dominguez Street and a prolongation thereof easterly to Western Avenue, Western Avenue on the east, Plaza del Amo on the south and southwest, and Madrid Avenue on the west, and not including said boundary streets.

It is the intention of the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance to issue such a franchise for a period of forty years to the highest bidder in consideration of the payment of at least One Dollar (\$1.00) per rod to the City of Torrance for each line of pipe laid, and when the same is laid, and the further payment to the City of Torrance of Two Percent (2%) of the pro rata proportion of income as provided for by the statutes of the State of California.

Said bids must be accompanied by a certified check in the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to cover the costs incident to the issuing of such franchise, and a certified check in the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) as evidence of good faith, which \$500.00 is to be returned upon the completion by the franchise holder of at least one-half of the pipe line to be laid under such franchise. Checks of all unsuccessful bidders will be returned immediately.

Said bids will be opened on January 5, 1925, at 8 o'clock P.M. by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance, in a regular meeting.

Dated, Torrance, California, November 29, 1924.
ALBERT H. BARTLETT, City Clerk.

BILLY WHISKERS

By FRANCES MONTGOMERY

We read last time how Nannie Goat was caught by some boys at a farmhouse.

"Let's see her in the cellar," said one boy, "for if we put her in the barn that would be the first place anyone looking for her would go to find her."

"Mother will give it to you if you put her in the cellar, for she is as particular about her cellar looking just so as she is of her parlor."

"I don't care! Mother has gone over to grandmother's, and she won't be back until night. By that time we can find another place to hide the goat until morning."

So, by pulling and pushing, Nannie was at last in the cellar, and tied to the leg of a table that had a lot of milk pans on it turned upside down to dry.

Then they left her and went out to look up and down the road to see if they could see anyone coming along who seemed to be searching for a lost goat. But the only one they saw on the road was their hired girl coming home to get supper after being away for her day off. So the boys turned and went back to hunt for eggs, feed the chickens and pigs and do the evening chores, for it was now near sundown.

Bare Walls
Left to herself, Nannie blinked around until her eyes grew accustomed to the darkness of the cellar, and then she began to look about for a way to escape. None presented itself. All she saw were four solid stone walls with little windows in them, too high up for any goat to jump out and too small to get through could she reach them.

"Whatever shall I do? I must get out of here before morning, for if I am not on my way early I shall be top late to see Billy in the play the picture showed!" And she rubbed the tears of disappointment and dissatisfaction out of her eyes on her fore legs. As she raised her head again she thought she heard footsteps overhead in what she decided must be the kitchen.

"I'll baa and make a terrible noise, and then whoever it is in the kitchen will come to see what the racket is about and let me loose."

So she gave a strong, quick jerk to the rope and over went the table, sending all the pans rolling over the floor in all directions and loosening the hastily tied rope so that it came off her horns. Nannie was free to roam where she willed!

She was about to search for the cellar door when she fell over something in the darkness that felt like a big round stone. But on investigation it proved to be a pile of nice fresh cabbages.

"Ho ho! I guess I'll search no further until I eat a few of these delicious new cabbages!" she thought.

And this is how it happened that the hired girl heard no noise in the cellar after that one terrible crashing, banging sound that had made her hold her breath in alarm and then run for the boys to come quickly and see if someone was in the cellar.

They Chuckle
Snickering to themselves, they went with her to see what mischief Nannie had done, for they well knew the hired girl's burglar in the cellar was none other than Nannie. They all went trooping down into the cellar, big and brave as life, then came up and assured her no one was there, and that all she heard was a milk pan that had rolled off the table, probably caused by her slamming the door.

She was perfectly satisfied with this explanation and went about her work singing until she heard footsteps coming up the cellar stairs, and someone breathing heavily. Then she threw her apron over her head and rushed out of the house and across the field to a neighbor a quarter of a mile away.

Nannie butted the door three times with her horns, each butt making enough noise to be heard all over the house. Then, as no one answered, she threw her weight against it, which shook it loose on its hinges, and it gave away and fell into the kitchen.

She calmly walked over it, looked around the kitchen to see if she could not see an open door or window, but on finding none open she jumped up on a table close to a window to see if she could not butt it open and then jump to the ground. But alas! as she landed on the table, on which was a big dishpan of dough just starting to rise, the leaf of the table gave way, sliding the pan of dough over on Nannie's head. The sticky, spongy stuff ran down between her eyes, while a great ball of it lodged between her horns and ran down over her eyes. She shook her head, but to no avail. The stuff stuck to her hair like molasses. Half blinded, she saw an open door and, stumbling toward it, she found it led upstairs, so up she went. By this time the dough had completely covered one eye and was fast closing the other. She stumbled against a bed and began rubbing her head up and down on the bedclothes to wipe it off. She succeeded in getting it out of her eyes, but quantities still stuck in her hair between her horns. When the dough fell off her eyes she saw an open window the other side of the bed and, not stopping to run around the bed, she jumped up on it and tramped across it to the windows.

"Now if I can squeeze myself through this window frame, I can easily jump to the roof. Then I shall be free to continue my journey," she thought. But as she looked out of the window she saw a woman driving a horse and buggy up the lane. She stuck

her head in and ran downstairs so as to be at the door when it was opened. The object was to butt whoever opened the door, and then run over them and make her escape.

Ouch!

Nannie reached the door long before the woman had time to turn her horse over to the boys, who came out of the barn to greet her. And Nannie could hear her asking them if they had fed the chickens and pigs and milked the cows, and many other questions, as she walked up the path to the house. She slowly opened the kitchen door, but when half open something hit her in the stomach and laid her flat on her back, while whatever it was walked over her and disappeared down the lane.

She was so frightened she closed her eyes and never opened them to see what it was that attacked her. And she lay still, never moving a muscle until the footsteps had died away in the distance. Then she jumped up and fled from the house to the barn, where the boys were milking the cows.

On seeing them she called: "Oh, my children! Oh, my children! Oh, my children! Are you all safe? I was afraid I should find you all dead. A terrible monster as big as a cow ran into me and knocked me down and then walked over me as I lay stretched on my back. And I give you my word of honor that its feet were as big as an elephant's and that it had hoofs of iron. I am all mashed to bits where its awful feet stepped on me."

"What kind of a monster could it have been?" the boys all asked, trying not to laugh and to look sympathetic.

"Oh, it must have been one of those foreign animals that escaped from the circus we had here a week ago, for it had long hair and a face like a man's, with a long beard. Oh, dear! Oh, dear! It has given me such a start I never shall get over it. Come, we will all go over to Farmer Strongholtz and ask him to bring his gun and dogs and see if there are any more of that kind of animals in the house. I would not enter that house for a million dollars until it has been thoroughly searched."

And they all four started across lots to Mr. Strongholtz's. But what was their surprise when half way there to see their own hired

girl, the farmer and his sons hurrying on their way, the young fellow with a gun over his shoulder, his dogs pulling at their leashes. [What do you suppose they all said when they saw the damage Nannie had done trying to escape?]

SAD OUTLOOK

The friend of the English family had been commissioned to purchase a small dog for an exile in Paris. He took his small son with him to conduct the purchase, and afterward found him in tears.

"Oh, daddy," sobbed the child, "I can't help feeling sorry for that poor little dog. What will it do when it gets over there and finds that all the other dogs speak French? It will be so drearily lonely!"

O. K. WITH HIM

The boy hurried home to his father with an announcement: "Me and Joe Peck had a fight today."

The father nodded gravely. "Mr. Peck had already called to see me about it."

The little boy's face brightened. "Gee, pop! I hope you made out 's well 's I did!"

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